



Testimony of the Connecticut AFL-CIO

Submitted to the Judiciary Committee

March 10, 2014

Good afternoon Senator Coleman, Representative Fox and members of the Judiciary Committee.

The Connecticut AFL-CIO on behalf of our 900 affiliated local unions who represent 200,000 working men and women all across this great state support:

S.B. No. 31 - An Act Concerning Continued Delivery Of Legal Services To The Poor

By passing S.B. 31 funding will continue for not only court fees and legal services, this legislation will also increase fee percentages for legal services without raising court fees.

Without passage of this bill legal aid staffing, that is represented by our U.A.W. affiliate, and services provided by that department have no alternative except to be further reduced.

The elderly, children and those that are "at risk" have unfortunate life circumstances where they have no choice but to rely on these provided services.

We thank the committee for holding this public hearing and urge passage of the Governors' bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd G. Berch

Field Director